

**A BRIGHT BEGINNING CHILD CARE SOCIETY
MEETING MINUTES
March 16, 2017**

Call to Order

6:36 pm

Attendees

Marietta Stevens	Terina Fells	Jean-Guy Lemay
Carmen Ewasiuk	Amanda Sooley	Jessica Gauthier
Ryan Jesse	Marsha Trites-Russell	Melissa Harrison
Chamari Sangallaye	Nalaka Sangallaye	Nicole Gougeon

Review 2016 AGM Agenda

- Fundraisers in 2016 – we did H&M, Mom’s pantry, did not end up renting out the center on weekends and evenings insurance requirements were not very user friendly
- Renovations – painted as required
- Accreditation was completed last year – done every 3 yrs
- Board elections were done – Jean-Guy took over as President, Terina is the new treasurer
- Carmen motioned to accept previous minutes, Terina 2nd the motion

Correspondence

- None to report

Treasurer Report

- 2016 report review – casino fund is at \$20K, this fundraiser helps the center run, discuss overall funds and where the money goes
- The rent on the center (\$7000) is the highest out of most of the centers in GP.

Fundraising Report

- Other ideas for fundraisers - Casino is done every 3 years, next one is Q2 2018, Meat fundraiser – maybe plan for a time later or earlier than spring breakup or have 2 one early spring and one later in summer, Designated

Drivers during Christmas party season – lack of parent volunteers would make this tough.

- Suggestion raised: That during the first orientation, parents are talked to about how important it is to participate with fundraisers through-out the year

Maintenance and Renovations

- There is a new guy for helping out with maintenance, he works at the County Sportsplex and charges \$50/hr
- Replacement of the shed - looking for ideas on how to get a donation for this.

Director's report

- Center was slow from Sept on for 3 & 4yr olds which are the rooms that make the most money.
- Baby room gained Denise back- there was a shift in staff.
- Reviewed the reports for each room
 - Tot room – they will be hiring one more staff to help out in this room as Sophie is busy with school. The report highlighted their activities including indoor camping and ball pits. Michelle came in who has cerebral palsy and the kids worked with using crutches, wheelchair, and a walker. They built a planter box for growing vegetables in the summer and would love a water / sand play area for this summer.
 - Junior room – many centers, weekly field trips which they are very proud of, they went to the fire station, vet clinic and dentist to name a few. They would like a new area rug, a new kitchen center, and need more mats for nap time.
 - Senior room – they work on new friendships, families, kindergarten readiness, early literacy. They go on field trips, went to the dentist, they have a new science center with a light cube which they would like to get more accessories for. Discussions about the difference between this program and preschools – BB keeps the children learn best through play moto. Not the same structure as preschool as they are usually at the center for 8 hrs vs the 2.5hrs at a preschool.

Lease/New building

- Nothing to report, no new ideas brought up

Current building /Play area

- Alarm systems on the door – parents are really happy with it. It sometimes sticks when people leave and doesn't always lock again, Marietta will be looking into getting this fixed when the supplier comes back to install the hallway buzzer. The door locks at 30 min intervals so it is set to lock at

5:30pm so parent's key-fobs won't work after this time. Looking into getting it set to 5:45pm instead as some parents are just arriving at 5:30pm, and they then need to be buzzed in.

- Playground will need a work bee in the spring – would like to put in a water and sand table on south side, rototill the sand and overall cleanup
- Senior room has lots of wear. Carpets may need to be pulled out and all flooring replaced. Amanda mention Allure flooring may be an option – it is very easy to install and seems to be very durable. – Possibly look into a commercial grade?

Wages

- Minimum wage – Marietta looked into what it would mean to our parents if the NDP up the minimum wage to \$15. There was a study by the government which showed that it would cost each parent an extra \$50/ month. It is not guaranteed to happen but it was discussed in case it does go through. Other centers talked about only increasing the wages of staff under the \$15 and leaving all others as is however, then the less educated staff end up catching up to the more educated personnel which may not be right either.
- Application was sent in for the grant for \$25/day daycare through the government. We should hear something by the end of March. This is a grant that would give the center money to run and cover expenses so that the rates could be reduced to \$25/ day per child.

Board elections

- Danielle not making it to as many meetings as she hoped to so there is a need for an alternate secretary – Jessica agreed to take this position as a split with Danielle
- Jean-Guy and Terina to stay on in their current roles
- General consensus is evening meetings would work best and children are welcome to come and play during the meeting times. More people is always welcomed and needed.

Action items:

1. **Replace shed – looking for 10x12 – anyone that could help out to find donations or reduced cost sheds to let the board know. Amanda to look into plywood that comes on trucks at work.**

Next Meeting: Wednesday, April 26, 5:30pm at the center baby room

Meeting Adjourned: 7:37 pm